

PASQUILS IESTES,

Mixed with Mother Bunches
Merriments.

Whereunto is added a Bakers
doozen of Guiles.

Very prettie and pleasant, to driue away
the tediousnesse of a Winters
EVENING.

Newly Corrected with new Additions.



L O N D O N

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at his Shop in Saint Dunstons Church-yard,
in Fleetstreete. 1 6 0 9.



PASQUILS
IESTES,
And Mother BUNCHES
Merriments.

A merrie Iest, of a Blind man and a Cripple.

There were two Beggars (I meane not of the Court, but meaner creatures of the Citie) that had no meanes to keepe life and limbes together, but by the charitable almes of erozable people, the one being youthfull and blind, the other very aged and lame, (and such persons are seldome admitted into the great chamber much lesse into the Kings pzenfence.) This blindman alwaies when he went abroad, carried the cripple on his shoulders to direct him, so likewise the cripple oppressed with his infirmities, could not trauell without suppoztance. Now it was the lame mans lucke one day about one of the clock after dinner, being bozne by his blind fellowe through Fleetstreete, to cast his eye on a great Oyster, which lay on the ground nere the Oyster doore, where some Oyster seller sitting (as their custome is) belike had let it fall from her basket: and therupon he directed his fellowe porter to stoape and take it vp, which done they fell into controuerfie about it, the one saying he deserved it best, because hee saw it and

A 2 guided

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guided the others hand to it, the other answered, y^e he had moſt right to it, becauſe he brought him thither & tooke the paines to take it vp : and while they were thus wrangling, a poore Lawyer coming out of Barn alley with his ſeaſole beard embrodered with greaſe like the ſnowt of a Muſtine, he w^{as} liſted out of the poore redge pot, and vnderſtanding the cauſe of their falling out ; my honeſt friends (quoth my Lawyer) pray let me ſee your Dyſter, and you ſhall ſee me quickly end this variance, the blind man deliuered the ſheſh unto the Lawyer, who hauing ſingred it, ſorthe with drew ſorthe his ruſty whittle, laid the Seabyed animal vpon his knee, and diuiding his houſe into two parts, gaue the one to the blind, the other to the lame, and deuoured the inhabitant himſelfe: the old cripple ſeeing that, cried out, now the Deuill gee with it, and the Lawyer remoued himſelfe into the Tauerne from his eye and clamors. Whereupon the blind lame bearer being aduertised of the left, wiſht it might poiſon or choake him, and ſo departed,

So Lawyers often get their gold with curſes,
and to their Clients ſhare, leaues empty purſes.

A tale of a Scriuener of London and a Countreyman.

I I ſell out vpon a Satterday, being market day, that a Country fellow, of the better ſort of husbandry, came to London, to lay out a little money vpon ſome neceſſarie trinkets : and hauing diſpatched his buſines, after he had pretely reſreſhed his ſpirits with a pot of the beſt that the Alehouſe could afford him, made homewards very merry ; but by the way, caſting his eye, by chance, vpon a kind of wri-ter, that would haue kept a Scriueners Shop, and ſeeing the maſter of the poore houſe, or the poore maſter of the houſe, ſitting alone in a rugge gowne, wrapping in his armes, to annoyd the bitterneſſe of the weather, minding to make himſelfe a little ſport, ſell thus to ſalute the poore Pen-man : I pray you maſter, what might you ſell in your ſhop, that you haue ſo many ding-dongs hang at your dore? Why, my friend

friend, quoth the Obligation-maker, I sel nothing but Logger-heads. By my fay, maister, quoth the Country man, you haue made a faire market with them, for you haue left but one in your shop, that I see : and so laughing, went his way, leauing much good sport to them that heard him.

A pretty Tale of a poore man and a Lawyer.

A Poore man hauing bene much injured by an unkind neighbour, who by the power of his purse would haue put him by the right of his land, went to a Lawyer dwelling not farre off, to whom hauing deliuered his grieffe, hee gaue litte for his Counsell, but a great many thanks, and country curtesies, with God saue his life, and so forth : intreating him to let him know, when hee should againe wait vpon him for his further aduise. Who answered him somewhat short, *When you will neighbour, when you will.* The poore man, vpon this *when you will*, came oftentimes after ward to him, but found no will in him to speake with him. Whereupon the poore man telling his wife of his ill hap, was aduised by her to take one of his best lambes, and present it vnto him, and then hee shoulde see what would follow : her counsell he followed, tooke his lambe, and went to the Lawyer : to whose gate hee was no sooner come, but the Lawyer hearing the bleating of the lambe, opening his window, called him vp, and within two words told him hee vnderstood his case, and all should be well : wherewith he departed, meeting with his wife going to the market. After they had bene at the Alehouse, and taken a pot or two, the poore man got him vp into the market place : and there hauing his throat well cleared made this mad out-crie : All ye that haue any matters to trie in law, get yee euery one a fat lambe, and cary to your Lawyer : for one word of a lambes mouth will be better vnderstood of the Lawyer, and doe more good, then twenty of your owne. *Probatum.*

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Of a Citizen of London, that rid out of the Citty five miles.

A Citizen riding to Edmonton, had his man following him on foot, who came so neare, that the horse strake him a great blow on the thigh. The fellow thinking to be reuenged, tooke by a great stone to throw at the horse, and hit his master on the raynes of the backe. Within a while his master looked backe, and seeing his man come halting so farre behind, chid him. Sir, your horse hath giuen me such a blow, quoth his man on the thigh, that I can goe no faster. Cruely said his master, the horse is a great kicker, for likewise with his heele right now, he gaue me a great stroke on the raynes of my backe: when it was his man that threw the stone.

A pretie tale of a Complaynant, that cryed to a Iudge for iustice, yet refused it when it was offered him.

Ope Dromo a certaine Tiler, sitting vpon the ridge of a house, laying on certayne rooffe tiles, looking back, and reaching somewhat too farre for a little morter, that lay by him, fell backward, and by good hap fell vpon a man, that was sitting vnder the house, whome with his fall he brused to death, but thereby saued his owne life. Not many dayes after, a sonne of the dead mans, caused this man to bee apprehended for murder, and hauing him before the Iudge, cried vnto him for Iustice: who asking of the prisoner, what he could say for himselfe, receiued this answer, Cruely Sir, I neuer thought the man any hurt, neither did I thinke to fall: but since it was my hap to hit vpon him to saue my life, if it please your Lordship, I am contented that hee shall haue Iustice: for my selfe, I had no malice to his father, though I see hee hath a great deale to me: let him doe his worke, I care not, I aske no fauour: let him goe vp to the top of the house, where I late, and I will sit where his Father late, let him fall from the place as cunningly as hee can,
and

and fall vpon mee to saue his life, I will bee contented. The Iudge seeing the mans Innocency, in intent of any euill to the man, whome hee had slaine, willed the Complaynant to take this course for his contentment: which hee refusing, was dismissed the Court, and the Prisoner thus by his witte released.

How a Merchant lost his purse betweene Waltam and London.

A Merchant that travelled betwene Ware and London, lost his budget, wherein was a hundred pound, who caused to proclaime in all villages and market townes, that who so had found the same, and would restore it againe, should haue twenty pounds for his paines. An honest husbandman that chanced to find it, brought it to the Baylife of Ware, and required his twenty pounds for his paines, when he deliuered it. When the couetous Merchant vnderstood this, and that he must needs pay twenty pound for the finding of it, hee said, there was an hundred and twenty pound in the Budget, and so would haue had his owne money, and twenty pound ouer. So long they stroue, that the matter was brought before a Justice. When the Justice vnderstood by the Baylife, that the crie was made for a Budget with an hundred pound in it, he demanded where it was: Here (quoth the Baylife) and gaue it him. Is it not an hundred pound (quoth the Justice?) Yes (quoth the Baylife.) Hold (quoth the Justice) to him that found the budget, take thou this money to thy vse, and if thou happen to finde a budget with a hundred and twenty pound, bring it to this honest Merchant man. It is mine, I lost no more but a hundred pound (quoth the Merchant.) You speake now too late (quoth the Justice) for your couetousnesse hath beguiled your selfe.

A Iest, sauing your reuerence, worth the laughing at.

In a Citie, I find not where, met a company, I know not who, and about I know not what, but after that they had

had laid their heades together, to conclude vpon a thing of nothing, as the vse is of such kind of people, fearing to surfet of fasting, they got them to dinner, where, when their bellies were full of Wine, their bzaines set their tongues to worke about wonders : and hauing made a great noise to little purpose, they fell to questioning among themselves, what was the rarest thing in the world. One, hee said the Phoenix, because there was but one, and she killed herselfe, and liued againe of her owne ashes. Another saide, A Diamond, because it would write in glasse. Another said, A Harrot, because it would speake like a man. Another said, A true friend, the world was so full of falshood. Another said, Gold, for that it wrought wonders in the world. And another said, A lone, because it robbed wise men of their wits. But while they did thus differ in their opinions, one plaine All-heated soole, being willing to say his mind, vpon a sudden falling into a laughing, told them they were all wide : for he knew a rarer thing then al they : which they desiring to know, he told them it was a sweet arse hole. Whereat euery one holding themselves by the nose, left off their talke, and laughing at the soole, rose from the table.

A Parson being summoned to appeare personally at London to answere vnto diuers faulks by him Committed.

A Parson of Bedfordschyre being summond to appeare personally in the Spiritual Court at London, because contrary to the exhortation of Saint Paule, he had committed fornication, or in plaine English had gotten a wench with child : for fornication is deriued of the Latine word Fornicatio, and Latine he was little acquainted with : as many are of his function in Country Villages, where the Shepheard must pipe a plaine song, or the Sheeplish flocke can neuer dance to it, being better Lanists then Latinists. This illiterate parson being Cited (I say) to shew his proper person in this courte of Carnallitie obeyd the officers Cita-
tion

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tion, and considering with himselfe that he should vse and expend good store of money in bribes, I would say, necessarie fees: when this day of doome drew neere, he took the summe of twenty pound of lawfull English money (as the Scribe-ners phrase is) out of his prou-garded chest, and caused it to be sowd vp in a Goose belly in stead of her intrails, of which with her head wings and feathers shee was lately deprived, and so sent it sow'd fast in an old Rappin full of holes to the Carrier, that he seeing the coate might not suspect the lining, and gaue his man this lesson also, that hee should giue the Carrier, great charge of it, and enforme him that it was only a Goose with the appurtenance, hoping by that fabulous information, to be merry with his Goose at London, paying only for the Carriage of that Goose, and to receiue his twenty pound scot-free. Now, his man went and carried the Goose to the carrier with speech agreeable to his masters direction, the Carrier took it, and perceiving by the ponderousnesse or strang weight, that there was more then a bare Goose in the cloth, concealed his suspition, promising that it should be safely conueied. And thereupon the seruant returned to his master. To be short the Parson with his man within a few daies after being come to London, hee sent his man to fetch this counterfeit commoditie, his man went and demanded it of the Carrier offering a groat for the carriage. The Carrier holding it a presumptuous part to rip open the cloth and take a large view of the contents, told the fellow, that one of the Kings Takers met him on the way, and took it away with many other things of other mens. The Parsons messenger being loaden with this coynd answere came backe and made his master a partaker of it, his master being almost astonied at so cold and vnerpected a message, yet stir'd vp with furious wrath, and feare of such a losse, start'd from his chaire where he sat, meditating vpon his transgression, and throwing his cloake hastily vpon his shoulders (the wrong side outward) ran out of doores like an Ore that had broke loose from the Aze of the Butcher, and neuer discontinued his course till he came to the Inne where encount-

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tring the Carrier hee demaunded his goole, offering a groat for the carriage, alas Sir (quoth the Carrier) the goole (sa- uing your worshop) was as I told your man, taken from mee by the Kings taker. By the Kings taker: (quoth the Parson) the Kings taker & thou his partaker I beleue, haue done moze then is answerable, there was twenty pounds of good new coyned silver, in the birds belly, and though hee leasd on the one, he had no commission to meddle with the o- ther; tis plaine robbery to take money from a man by the Kings highway, runne fellow (quoth hee to his man) fetch me the Constable; He indite the taker, and haue the Carri- er befoze a Justice in the meane tyme, to be forth comming a- gainst him. The Carrier hearing his threats and thun- dring words, crept into his warehouse and bringing forth the Gole (quoth he) to the passionate Parson. Sir, behold here is your Gole which I thus long detein'd, that you might not make me your Gole, and now bee it knowne vnto your worshop, that I must and will haue a groat in the pound for the carriage of your money, with a groat for the Gole, and then you may take it to your selfe. So to end this diffe- rence, the Parson glad and mad to heare and see this e- uent, glad that his money was so nere his fingring, and mad that the Carrier had so deceiued and over-reached his intent, neuerthelesse seeing he had no meanes to saue a little money without the losse of much moze; with a resolute heigh-bo he told out seven shillings to the Carrier, and vpon payment thereof receiuing the Gole he cut it vp, as the Hangman did Hacket, iust in the belly, & drawing forth the silver garbage, he sell with his man to numeration, vowing that if he found a roundrosse imbellied, the Carrier shou'd answere his knauery deere, but the Dice running even, he put vp the mony into his flesh-bagge againe, and left the Carrier with many others laughing at his hard fortune.

Of one excusing a backe-wind.

A Sturdy Sayler being in cheapside amongst the throng
of people, when the Lord Bays, &c. came from West-
minster

minster, was thrust and crowded so hard, that with overlabouring to get out into an easier place, hee let out a great fart. A poore Cittizen standing nere reproved him for it, to which he replid, for god honest man my arse hath had a great desire of late to speake, he wants nothing but thy tongue.

How cunningly a knaue deuised to get money by his wit, for himselfe and his three companions.

Three loytring companions that fell in company together, dominèd so long, that all their money was consumed and gone. So being penilesse, said one of them, By my faith, wee are now in a faire taking: for we may, if wee will, seeke our dinner with Duke Humphrey. Nay, Zounds (quoth the second) If I come where any presse of people be, I can get money enough for vs all. Shblood, and I (quoth the third) can lightly assemble people. They were at that time not passing two miles from a small towne in Barkshire, where, when they came, there was a new Pillory set vp, where the third of them steps to the Baylife, and desires him to haue the Maiden-head of their new Pillory. The Baylife being a Butcher, was halfe amazed, and standing musing, at last he asked counsell of his neighbours, and they bad him set vp the knaue and spare not. So vp he went, and when hee was vp, hee looked about, and saw his two fellows busie in the holes of the Butchers aprons, where they put all their money. To it, to it (quoth he) apace. The people laughed hartely to see him stand there. At last, when hee saw that his fellows had sped their matters, and were going away, he said to the Baylife, Turne the Pillory about, and now I will come downe. So laughing hartely did. And when he was come downe, the Baylife said, Now by my faith thou art a good fellow, and because thou hast made vs some sport, I will giue thee a Taster to drinke: and so thinking to take some money out of the hole of his apron, he found there neuer a penny. Cocks armes (quoth the Baylife) my money is picked out of my apron: and then the rest of the

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But here beside swore they had lost theirs also. I hope (quoth the fellow) you do not thinke that I have it. No, by my troth (quoth the Baylife) I know wel enough thou hast it not: for thou wert on the pilloze all the while. Why, then no harme, no force (quoth the fellow) and so went his wayes.

How one at Kingstone fained himselfe dead, to trie what his wife would doe.

In Kingstone dwelt one Rawlins, newly married, which to proue what his wife would doe, fained himselfe dead, while she was in the back-side, washing of her clothes, and laid himselfe all along the floure. Whereupon his wife comming sodainely in, thought that he had been dead indeed: but hauing laboured hard all the day, and being soze an hungred, she stood musing with herselfe, wether it were best to lament his death, or to dine first: which motion of eating liked her best: wherupon she cut two or thre collops of salt Bacon, and broyled them on the coales, and ate them vp: and being very hungry she forgot to drinke, but the saltnes of the meat at last made her throat so harsh, that she toke a pot and went to draw some drinke: but one of her neighbors comming suddenly in, made her set downe her pot, and as if her husband had but new salne downe, she began to lament so heauily, & with such a noise, that all the neighbors came running in, where they found her most pitifully bewailing the sudden death of her husband. Whereupon they beganne to comfort her, and told her she must be content, for there was no way no remedy. Alas said she, Oh my sweet husband what shall I doe? At which words, her husband lift vp his head, and saide, full ill, my sweet wife, except you goe quickly and drinke: for the salt bacon I am sure hath almost choked you.

A knauish answere of an vnhappy country wench to a foolish young fellow.

A Certaine Idle headed young man, that loued to heare himselfe speake, though it were of matter to little purpose,

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pose, riding vpon a faire day to a market towne, ouer toke by chance, among other creatures of her owne kind, an indifferent well fauoured and well growne country wench, whom singling by her selfe as much as hee could, hee fell to commune with, in an odde manner of loue making, when beginning very low, marking her new shod fete, hanging ouer her dosiers, beganne with this commendation: Cruely sister, you haue a very fine fote there. Hea sir (quoth the wench) that I haue a couple. The yong man thinking to shew some little wit, in a scoffe replied with this speech. But are they twinnes, sister: were they both borne at one time? No indeed sir (quoth the wench) there hath been a man borne betwixt them. Wherewith her neighbours that rood by her, falling into a laughing, made him find, that she was a married wife: which being contrary to his expectation, being much troubled with her answere, with lack of wit to reply, galloped away with a flea in his eare,

A flowting answere to a flowting question.

A poore man, vpon a time comming into a market with a very leane horse, setting him neere vnto a company of fat and faire Geldings to bee sold, was asked of a scoffing companion, how he sold his horse by the ell: Which the poore man taking something discontentedly, and yet not willing to quarrell with him, made him an answere fit for his question: When holding vp his horses taile, I pray you sir (quoth hee) come into the shop, and you shall see.

A warnin g for tale-tellers.

I Need in the records of a certaine schoole, where faults were reckoned vp all the weeke, to be paid vpon the Saterday, that an unhappy boy, willing to haue one of his fellowes tast of such schoole-butter, as hee had often broke his fast with, one morning came to his master with this speech. Cruely sir you haue often beaten me for looking off from my

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booke, and such a one scapeth without rebuke. Pea (quoth he?) call him to me. Who no sooner came to him, but heard him his lesson. Which perfectly repeated, how now Sirra (quoth hee) to his accuser: how like you this geare: How did he looke from his booke, and say his lesson so well? Let me heare you: who was imperfect in many points. Well Sir (quoth hee) how do you know that your fellow did not looke vpon his booke: Harry Sir (quoth he) I did watch him all the while. Then Sir (quoth his fellow) I beseech you aske him, who looked on his booke while he watched me. Whereat his master smiling, tooke the accuser, and openly in the Schoole whipped him well, first for his lesson, and after for his accusation.

Of a worshipfull Gentleman in Lincolnshire, and his man,

A Certaine Gentleman in Lincolnshire, being also a Justice of Peace, had an old servant many yeres, called, Adam Milford, who vpon a time came vnto his Master and desired him, in regard hee had bene his servant so many yeres, he would now giue him something to helpe him in his old age. Thou saist true (quoth his Master) and I will tell thee what I will doe: Now shortly I am to ride vp to London, if thou wilt pay my cost and charges by the way, I will giue thee shortly such a thing, as shall be worth to thee an hundred pound. I am content (quoth Adam) and so paid for al the reckoning by the way. So being come to London, he put his Master in minde of his former promise that he had made to him. What, did I promise thee any thing? I (quoth Adam) that you did: for you said, you would giue me y that should be worth to mee a hundred pound, for paying your charges to London. Let me see your writing (quoth his Master.) I haue none (quoth Adam.) Then thou art like to haue nothing (quoth his Master:) And learne this of mee, That when thou makest a bargaine with any man, looke thou take a writing, and beware how thou makest a writing

ting to any man. This hath auailed me an hundred pounds in my daies. When Adam saw there was no remedy, hee was content: but when they should depart, Adam stayed behind his master, to reckon with his Hostis; and on his Masters scarlet cloake borrowed so much money, as came to all their charges, that he had laid out by the way. His Master had not ridden past two myles, but it beganne to raine apace: wherefore he called for his cloake. His other men made answere, that Adam was behind, and had it with him. So they shrowded them vnder a tree, till Adam came. When he came, his master said al angerly, thou knaue, come giue me my cloake: hast thou not serued me wel, to let me be thus wet? Truly sir (quoth Adam) I haue laid it to payne for al your charges by the way. Why knaue, quoth he didst thou not promise to beare my charges to London? Did I, quoth Adam? I, quoth his Master, that thou didst. Let's see, shew me your writing of it, quoth Adam. Whereupon his Master perceiuing hee was ouer-reacht by his man, was faine to send for his cloake againe, and pay the money.

How mad Coomes, when his wife was drowned: sought her against the streame.

Coomes of Staplozth, hearing that his wife was drowned, comming from Market, went with certaine of his friends to see if they could find her in the river: hee contrary to all the rest, sought his wife against the streame: which they perceiuing, said, hee lookt the wrong way. And why so (quoth he?) Because (quoth they) you should looke downe the streame, and not against it. Nay Zounds (quoth hee) I shall neuer find her that way: for shee did all things so contrary in her life time, that now shee is dead, I am sure shee will goe against the streame.

Of the Farmer in Norfolke, and his Phisicion.

A certaine rich Farmer hauing laine long sicke in Norfolke, at last sent for a Phisicion from the next Market towne:

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towne : who when he came, he felt his pulses, and viewed his water, and then told them, that hee could by no meanes nor Physicke escape, the disease had so much power in his body, and so went his way. Within a while after by Gods good helpe, [who is the onely giuer of all health, the man escaped, and was well againe, and walking abroad, being still very weake and feeble, hee met with his Physicion, who being very soze affraid to see him, asked him, if hee were not such a Farmer? Yes truely (quoth he) I am. Art thou alive or dead (quoth he?) Dead (quoth he) I am : and because I haue experience of many things, God hath sent me to take vp all Physicions I can get : which made the Physicion to looke as pale as ashes, for feare. Nay, feare not (quoth the Farmer) though I named all Physicions, yet I meant thee for none : for I am sure, a better Dunce liues not this day, then thou art : and then I should be a foole to take thee for one, that art not fit to come to any man, but to the dogges with thy physicke : and so he left him : but the Physicion neuer left quaking till he was out of the sight of him.

How merry Andrew of Manchester serued an vsurer.

Merry Andrew of Manchester, who is well knowne, meeting with three or foure of his companions on a Sunday, presently he bade them home to dinner, yet he neither had meate nor mony in his house. Well, but to his shifts he goeth, and went into an old Usurers kitchen, where he was very familiar, & priuily vnder his gowne, he brought away the pot of meate, that was fooden for the old misers dinner. When he came home, hee put out the meate, and made his boy scoure the pot, and sent him with it to the Usurer, to borrow two groats on it, and bade the boy take a bill of his hand : which the boy did, and with the money bought beere and bread for their dinner. When the Usurer should goe to dinner, his meate was gone : wherefore hee all to beate his maide, calling her whore. She said, there came no body but Andrew there all that day. Then they asked him.

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him. And he said he had none. But at last they said, that he and no body else had the pot. By my faith (quoth Andrew) I borrowed such a pot on a time, but I sent it home againe: and so called his witnesse, and said, it is perillous to deale with men now a daies without writing: they would lay theft to my charge, if I had not his owne hand to shew: and so hee shewed the Usurers bill: whereat the Usurer stoyn d, and all the rest fell a laughing.

How he seru'd another, that would haue put him down in his merry sayings.

ANdrew once was at Supper with his friends, and among the Company there was one that spited at his jests and merry conceits. After supper they fell to reasoning among themselves, which was the most reuerent part of mans body. One said, the eye: another, the nose: a third said, the leg: but Andrew knowing that he that spited him, would name the contrary, said, the mouth was most reuerent of all. Nay (quoth the other) the part that we sit on is the most reuerent: and because they all marvelled why hee should say so, hee made this reason: That hee was most honourable, that was first set, and the part that hee named, was first set. Which saying contented them all, and grieved Andrew. The next day they all met againe, and Andrew comming last, found them sitting altogether. And when he had saluted them all, but his enemy, he turned his backe-side to him, and let a great fart in his face. At which the fellovs being mighty angry, said, walke knaue, with a mischief, where hast thou beene brought vp? Why disdaineest thou, quoth Andrew? if I had saluted thee with my mouth, thou wouldest haue saluted me againe: and now when I salute thee with that part, that by thy owne saying, is most honourable, thou callest me knaue. Then the company fell a laughing at this jest hartely.

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The tale of the Blacke Moore.

In the yere when fresh wits began to season themselves to abide weathers, it fell out, it is no matter where, that a certaine young fellow, next neighbour to a scole, hauing more money in his purse, then he knew well how to vse, and yet willing to aduenture a little, to gaine more, light into the acquaintance of a noble crafty companion, who finding his humour, was not to learne how to fit it: and noting his foolish kind of flatering, when hee came among the Feminine gender, and how farre he would be in loue with maid Marian, vpon the first measure of a Morris daunce, came one day to him very closely, and getting him to beare him company alone into the fields, there very soberly, in the way of much affection, (as hee seemed to make shew of) told him, that it grieved him to see so proper a man spend his time so, without a companion fit for his person, meaning a wife: which, if an Owe would not serue his turne, it had bene pittie any better creature should haue bene bestowed vpon him. Yet forthwith, in great secret he told him, and looked about, as though some body had heard him, that if he would bee ruled by him, he would helpe him to such a wife, as all the world should not find a better for his purpose. For she should bee faire, and welthy, and wise, and what more, I know not: but she should be such a one, as he should haue cause to giue him thanks for. The young greene Goose somewhat shamedfast, and yet foolish enough to harken to an idle tale, answered him, that though he was not determined to marry, yet if hee liked her, and she him, he did not know what would come to passe: but hee would bestow a quart of Wine to haue a sight of her. Not to make a long tale of a little or nothing, without many hummes or haes it was agreed betwixt them that a day should be set downe when the meeting should be. The place was appointed, the parties were acquainted, the plot was laid, and the matter performed. But while the goose was gaping for one bait, he was catcht with another. For the

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the cunning rascall, intending to make himselfe merry with his money, told him he must be finely apparrelled, and bestow a Supper or two, in shew of a braue mind: but when he had her once, then let him doe as he list. The scole already in a net, began to tangle himselfe brauely, made himselfe new apparell according to the fashion, gaue money to bestow vpon a Supper or two: where met him a fine boy drest woman like, to whom he made such loue, that a dog would not abide to heare it. The counterfeit young Mistris, with kind words, and knaughty wiles, finding the length of his foot, gat many tokens of his loue; as Gloues, Skarles, and such like, besides a Ring or two, and a bracelet: all which he did bestow, so louingly, that he must needes be vsed like himselfe, and so he was: for nothing was refused that came so gently to passe. But after many kind meetings, in the end it was agreed betwixt them, that in a friends house of his, the matter should be made vp: which being little better then a bawdy house, it serued the turne as well as could be. There they met, and being both agreed, vpon assurance of each other loue to bed they should goe that night, and bee married shortly after, well, that night there lacked no good chere, nor Wine to make the heart merry: which being taken in full cups, wrought the matter as they would haue it: for after they had well sopped, and sate a while by a good fire, the good Ass fell a sleepe: in which being laid in his bed, in stead of the faire boy, they had laid a blacke Moore wench by him, with whom I know not how he handled the matter: but in the morning, seeing what a sweet bed-fellow he had gotten, suddenly starting out of the bed, ran to his clothes, and taking them in his hand, ran out into another chamber, crying that hee was vndone, for he had laine with the ugliest thing that euer was, and he feared it was the deuill. In which feare blessing himselfe, as from sprites, running out of the house, with the expence of his money, almost losse of his wittes and laught at of all that knew him, like a good woodcocke, fled away so farre, that I neuer heard moze what became of him.

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Of a Doctor and his man.

A Doctor that was newly commen'd at Cambridge, charged his servant that he had, not to say any thing, but that he should aske of him. Within a while after, hee invited diuers of his friends to dinner, and sent his man to desire another Doctor to come and dine with him. The fellow went, and the Doctor told him that he could not come: for he had great businesse to dispatch that day. So home he comes, and saies nothing. When the guests were all come, they staid from going to dinner, til the other Doctor came. When they had staid till two of the clocke, hee asked his man, if hee had bidden him come to dinner? Yes (quoth his man) that I did. And why doth he not then come? Harry, he said, that he had other businesse, and hee could not come. Why didst thou not tell me this before (quoth his Master) Why Sir (quoth he) because you did not aske me.

Of one that beleeued his wife better then others.

A Man, whose wife was no better then she should be, nor so neither, his friends counselled him to looke better vnto her. The man went home, and Charpey rebuked his wife, and told her what his friends said of her. She knowing that perjury was no worse then adultery, with weeping and swearing denyed the same, and told her husband that they deuilled those tales in enuy, because they saw them liue so quietly. With these words her husband was content and well pleased. Yet another of his friends was at him againe: and said that he did not well, to let her haue her liberty so much. To whom he answered, I pray you tell me whether knoweth my wiues faults best, she or you? They said shee. And she that I beleue better then you all, saith you lye all like knaues.

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The Harfordshiremans answered to the Abbot of London.

The Abbot riding in Visitation, came to a place where they had newly builded their steeple, and put out their Belles to bee new cast. The Abbot comming nere the townes end, and bearing no Belles to King, in a chafe saide to one of the townsmen, haue you no Belles in your steeple? No, my Lord quoth he. Then said the Abbot, Sell away your steeple. Why so, and please your Lordship: Quoth he, because it standeth void. Harry, said the man, we may well also sell away another thing in our Church, as well as that, and better too. What is that (quoth the Abbot:) Harry our Pulpit (quoth he) for this seven yere haue we not had a Sermon in it, nor I thinke neuer shall, but Belles I am sure we shall haue shortly.

Of one that lost his purse.

A Countrey man comming vp to the Tearme, by misfortune lost his purse: and because the summe was great, he set vp billes in diuers places of London, that if any man had found such a purse, and would restore it againe, hee should haue very well for his paines. A Gentleman of the inner Temple, wrote vnder one of his billes, that he should come to his chamber, and did write where. So when he came to the place, the Gentleman asked him, first, what was in his purse? Secondly, what countrey man he was? And thirdly, what was his name: Sir (quoth he) twenty pound was in my purse. I am halfe a Welchman, and Iohn vp Ianken is my name. Iohn vp Ianken (quoth the Gentleman) I am glad I know thy name: for so long as I liue thou nor none of thy name, shall haue my purse to keepe. And so farewell gentle Iohn vp Ianken.

Of mad conceited Bulkin.

Bulkin, well knowne in diuers places for his mad conceits, and his cozenage, vpon a time came into Kent, to
C 3 Sittingborne:

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Sittingborne : and there in diuers villages thereabout set vp billes, that all sorts of people, yong and old, that would come to Sittingborne, on such a day, they should find a man there, that would giue a remedy for all diseases : and also would tell them what would happen vnto any of them in five or six yeeres after : and he would desire but two pence a peece of any of them. Whereupon people came of all sorts, and from all places : so that he gathered of the people that came, to the value of twenty pounds : and he had prouided a Stage, and set it vp, and placed a chaire where hee would sit : and so they being all come in, and every one set in order, hee comes to the gate, and takes the money from them that gathered it; and bids them looke that good rule be kept, and so they did : also he bid them by and by sound the drumme, and then he would begin his Orations. He when they were gone, with all hast gets him to the backside, and there hauing his gelding, gets vpon his backe, and away towards Rochester rides hee, as fast as euer hee could gallop. Now they thinking hee had bene preparing of things in a readinesse, sounded the drum. The Audience looked still when he would come . and staying one, two, three howres, nay more, thought sure they were couzened. Whereupon one of the company seeing a paper in the chaire on the stage, toke it, wherein was written:

Now you haue heard the sound of the drumme.

You may all depart like fooles as you come.

Whereupon all of them falling to cursing and swearing, were faine to depart like fooles indeed.

Of the rich Widdow of Abington.

This Widdow desired a gossip of hers, that shee would helpe her to a husband, not for any carnal desire she had, but onely to keepe her goods, and see to her lands, which is hard (saith she) for me to doe my selfe. The woman for all her talke, yet knew she spake against her mind : and therefore three or foure daies after, she came to her, and said, Gossip, I haue found an husband for you, that is very wise and worldly

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worldly giuen : but he lacks the thing you wot of, whereof I am sure you care not at all. Harry, quoth the widdow, let the deuill take that husband, if he will: for though I desire not the bodily pleasure, yet I would not haue him lacke that thing, which if wee should fall out, should make vs friends againe.

Of a Lawyer and his man.

A Worshipfull Gentleman, being a counseller, keeping a very good house, kept a Gentlemans sonne to bee his Clarke, and to waite vpon his Table. So one day hauing store of guests, there wanted bread on the Table, hee beckened to his man to fetch some: who not vnderstanding him, came to him, and said, Sir, what would you haue? Seest not knaue (quoth he) there is no bread on the Table: therefore fetch some. There was enough euen now (quoth his man) if they would haue let it alone, and not haue eaten it vp. Another time, his guests hauing supt, and ready to depart, hee bade his man draw a cup of Wine, to make them drinke before they went. The fellow comming vp with the guilt cup couered, his master beckened him to take of the cover. Hee not vnderstanding, said, Master, what would you haue? Why, knaue, take off the couer, quoth he of the cup. Then hold you the candle, said his man: for I cannot doe two things at once.

How finely one sold two loads of hay.

In London dwelt a mad conceited fellow, which with his witte liued with Gallants, and dominierd with good fellows. Not long agoe, in hay haruest, he gets a Pitchfork on his necke, went forth towards Islington in the morning, and meetes with two loads of hay, comming towards the Citie to be sold: for the which hee bargayned with them that owed the same, for thirty shillings. Whither shall we bring them, quoth they? To the Swan, by Smithfield, said he. And so went his way, and left them, and to the Swan hee

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he went, to the goodman of the house, and asked if hee would buy two loads of hay? Yes quoth the In-keeper, where bee they? Where they come quoth he, What shall I pay quoth the In-keeper? Foure Nobles, quoth make-shift. But at last they were agreed for twenty shillings. When they were come, hee bade them unload the hay. So while they were unloading, he came to the In-holder, and said, I pray you let mee haue my money: for while my men unload, I will buy some stuffe to haue home with me. The In-holder was content, and gaue him his money. And so he went his way. When the men had unloaded their hay, they came and demanded their money. I haue paid your Master, quoth the In-keeper. What Master quoth they? Marry, quoth he, he that bade you bring the hay hither. We know him not (quoth they.) Nor I (quoth he) but with him I bargayned, and him haue I paid. with you I medled not, and therefore goe seeke him if you will. And so the poore men were couzened of their hay.

Of a young Gentleman, that would haue kissed a maid with a long nose.

A Young Gentleman, none of the wisest, would haue kissed a faire maid, that had something a long nose, who saide, How should I kisse you, your nose is so long, that our lippes cannot meete? The maid waxing angry in mind, said, if you cannot kisse my mouth, Sir, for my nose, you may kisse me there, where as I haue neuer a nose.

Of one that fell off a tree at Greensted.

There was a Husbandman that dwelt at Greensted, that was gathering his fruit, and being hard at worke, forgot his footing, and downe he comes tumbling, and with his fall brake one of his ribs. To comfort him came a merry man his neighbour, who said, he would teach him such a rule, that if he would follow it, he would neuer fall off a tree againe.

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Gaines Harry, said the hurt man, I would you had taught me that rule before I fell: neuerthelesse, because it may happen to profit me another time, let mee heare it. Then said the other, take heed that you neuer goe faster downe, then you goe vp, but descend as softly, and you shall neuer fall.

Of a Scholler and a Ploughman.

A Certaine Scholler being in Bedfordshire a rude ploughswaine reproued him for something, saying, that he could say all his prayer with a hole minde, and set fast intention, not thinking of any thing else. Goe to, said the Scholler, say one Pater noster to the end, and thinke on no other thing, and I will giue thee my horse. That I shall do, quoth the ploughman, and so he beganne to say, Our Father which art in heauen, till hee came to, Hallowed be thy name: and then his thought moued him to aske this question, Pea, but shall I haue the bydle and the saddle to: And so hee lost his bargaine.

How drunken Mullins of Stratford dreamed hee found Gold.

Mullins being drunke, and lying in his bed, dreamed that the diuell led him into a field to digge for Gold: and when he had found the Gold, the Deuill said, Thou canst not carry it away now, but marke the place, that thou maist fetch it another time. What marke shall I make, quoth Mullins? With Pilgrime salue (quoth the Deuill) for that shall cause euery man to shun the place, and so: thee it shall be a speciall marke. Where hee did so, and when he awaked, hee perceived he had souly betrayed his bed. Thus betwene stinke and dirt vp he rose, and made him readie to goe forth. And last of all, he put on his hat, wherein also the cat had shit: so, for great stinke, he threw away his hat, and was faine to wash his head. Thus all his Golden Dreame was turned to Dirt.

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Of a yong woman at Barnet, that sorrowed for her husbands death.

In Barnet was a young woman, that when her husband lay a dying, sorrowed out of all measure, for feare that she should lose him. Her father came to her, willing her to bee contented: for he had provided her another husband, a farre more goodly man. But she did not onely continue in her sorrow, but was also greatly displeased, that her father made any motion to her of any other husband. As soone as her other husband was buried, and the Sermon was done, and they were at dinner, betweene sobbing and weeping, she rounded her father in the eare, and said, Father, where is the young man, that you told me should be my husband? When at her father suddenly fell a laughing.

A poore beggers answer to a rich Citizen.

A poore begger that was foule, blacke and lothsome to behold, came to a rich Citizen and asked his almes. To whom the Citizen said, I pray thee get thee hence from mee, for thou lookest as though thou camest out of hell. The poore man perceiuing he could get nothing, answered, Forsooth sir you say troth, I came out of hell indeed. Why lidest thou not tarry there still, quoth the Citizen: Harry Sir (quoth the begger) there is no roome for such poore beggers as I am: all is kept for such Gentlemen, as you are.

The subtilty of a Lawyer repaid with the like subtilty.

There was an vnthrift in London, that had receiued of a Merchant certaine wares, which came to fifty pounds, to pay at thre months, and at thre monthes: but when hee had it, he consumed and spent it all: so that at the sixe months end, there was not any left to pay the Merchant: wherefore the Merchant arrested him. When hee saw there was no other remedy, but either to pay the debt, or goe to prison, he sent to a subtil lawyer, and asked his counsell how he might cleare himselfe of that debt. What wilt thou giue me (quoth he)

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he) if I doe: Five markes (quoth the other) and heere it is, and as soone as you haue done, you shall haue it. Well, said the Lawyer, but thou must be ruled by my counsell, and doe thus: When thou comdest before the Iudge, whatsoener he saith vnto thee, answer thou nothing, but crie, Bea, still, and let me alone with the rest. So when hee came before the Iudge, hee said to the debter, Dost thou owe this Merchant so much money? Bea (quoth he.) What, beast (quoth he?) answer to that I aske thee. Bea (quoth hee) againe. Why how now, quoth the Iudge: I thinke this fellow hath gotten a sheepes tongue in his head: for hee answeres in the sheepes language. Why Sir, quoth the Lawyer, doe you thinke this Merchant that is so wise a man, would be so foolish as to trust this Ideot with fifty pounds worth of ware, that can speake neuer a word: no Sir I warrant you. And so perswaded the Iudge to cast the Merchant in his owne suite. And so the Iudge departed, and the court brake vp. Then the Lawyer came to his Clyent, and asked him his money. Since his promise was performed, and his debt discharged, Bea (quoth he.) Why, thou needst not cry Bea any longer, but pay me my money. Bea (quoth he againe.) Why, thou wilt not serue me so, I hope (quoth the Lawyer) now I haue bled thee so kindly. But nothing, but Bea, could Master Lawyer get for his paines, and so was faine to depart.

A tale of a merry Christmas Carrol, sung by women.

There was sometime an old Knight, who being disposed to make himselfe merry, in a Christmas time, sent for many of his tenants, and poore neighbors, with their wives to dinner: when having made meate to be set on the Table, would suffer no man to drinke, till he that was master ouer his wife, should sing a Carrol, to excuse all the company: Great ricenesse there was, who should bee the Musician, now the Cuckow time was so farre off. Yet with much ado, looking one vpon another, after a by hemme or two, a dreaming companion drew out as much as hee durst, towards an ill-fashoned ditty. When having made an end, to

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the great comfort of the beholders, at last it came to the womens table, where likewise commandement was giuen, that there should no drinke be touched, till she that was master o^{er} her husband, had sung a Christmas Carrol: whereupon they fell all to such a singing, that there was neuer heard such a catterwailing peece of Musicke. Whereat the Knight laughed heartely, that it did him halfe as much good, as a Corner of his Christmas Pie.

A ielt of a Felon at Oxford.

The Assises being at Oxford, among the rest, there was a Felon that had the benefit of the Clergy, to haue his booke. but he could read neuer a word. Which a scholler perceiuing, stood behind, and prompt him with his backe that hee was to read: and comming to the latter end, hee held his thumbe vpon the booke, that the scholler could not see: wherefore he bade him softly take away thy thumbe: he thinking that the same was so in the booke, said aloud, take away thy thumbe. Which the Judge perceiuing, bade take him away. And so he was condemned: and being vpon the ladder, ready to dye, and the rope about his necke, he said, Haue at you Masse, that growes yonder. And so leaped of the gallows.

Of a Gentleman of Norfolke and his Host.

A Gentleman of Norfolke, as hee was riding towards London in the winter time; and sitting by the fire side, with his Host, vntill supper could be made ready, there happened a Rabbet to be at the fire a roasting, which the Gentleman perceiued to be very leane, as hee thought. Quoth hee vnto his Host, we haue Rabbets in our country, that one will drip a pottle, and baste it selfe. The In-keeper wondred with himselfe, and did thinke it to be a lye, but would not say so, for maners sake, and because he was his guest: but thinking to requite him, Now truly, quoth he, it is very strange: but I can tell you of as strange a thing as that. Which the Gentleman very desirous to heare: quoth he, I had as fine a Grayhound, as any was in England: and if I had happe-

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ned to goe abroad to my grounds, the Grayhound would alway go with me. And sometime there would start out a Hare before me, which my Grayhound would quickly catch. It fortuned that my dog died, and for very lone that I bare to him, I made me a bottle of his skin, to carry drinke withal. So, one time in hay heruest, my folke being making of hay in my grounds, and the weather hote, I filled my bottle with beere, to carry to them, least they should lacke drinke. And as I was going along, there start a Hare out of a bush before me; and as it was my custome, I cried Now, now, now. My bottle leaping from my girdle, ran and catcht the Hare. What quoth the Gentleman, me thinkes that should bee a lye. Truly sir, said the In-keeper, so did I thinke yours was. The Gentleman perceiving that he was requited for his kindnesse, held himselfe contented.

A tale of a Printer and a Gentlewoman.

As a merry conceited Printer was going thorough S. Martins in London, with a friend of his, being merrily disposed, quoth he, I will lay a quart of Wine with you, that I will go and kisse yonder Gentlewoman, who is comming on the other side of the way. Wilt thou, quoth the other? and I will lay it with thee. The wager being laide, presently this Printer crosses the way, and met this Gentlewoman, and with cap and bended knee salutes her, and taking her by the hand, kissed her. The Gentlewoman somewhat abashed at this sudden salutation, and could not call to mind where she had seene or knowne him: Truly sir, said she (and made a low curtie) you must pardon me: for as yet I do not know you. Truly, no, I you, Mistris: but I hope there is no hurt done. So saluting her, went his way, leaving the Gentlewoman much ashamed, and much laughing to the beholders.

A tale of a Gentleman and his man.

AGentleman upon a time having a man that could write and read well, rebuked him one day for idleness, saying If I had nothing to doe, I would for the better comfort of my
D 3 wit,

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Wit, set downe all the folks I know. The fellow making little answer, tooke his pen and inke, and as his Master had wished him, sett a setting downe a Catalogue of all the soles, that he was well acquainted with : among whom, and first of all, he set downe his Master, who reading his name, would needs know the nature of his folly. Harry (quoth hee) in lending your Cousin twenty pound this other day : for I thinke he will neuer pay you. Pea, but (quoth his Master) what if he doe pay me? Then (quoth his man) I will put out your name, and put downe his for a sole.

A fray betwixt a clowne and a Pasty of Venison.

A certaine rich Counsellor of the common law, who kept his termes at an Inne of Court neere y^e Citie of London, and his vacations in the Countrey, vsed euery Sunday to haue one Client or other (whose purses paid for't soundly before hand) at dinner with him, to the end (I guesse) that his kind entertainment might cause them to retaine him in their Law-causes for counsell. Now it chanced one Sunday in the last long vacation that a silly Rusticke fellow that neuer or seldome tasted better chere then Rye bread and whey butter, being seated at the taile or lower end of this Counsellors table, saw a hot Reddere Pasty standing vnder his nose, and taking it to be a browne loafe (as indeed it was like one) hee tooke it out of the dish, set it against his brest, and whipping out his too'ne no larger then a Cooks mincing knife, he made a breach in the walles and thinking to passe quite through the towne viz. the Pasty without detriment, a troupe of hot shot viz. the fat liquor lying in Ambush suddenly sallied forth, and gaue the inuader such hot welcome, that betwene rage and weeping hee flung away his weapon and retired swearing a great Othe that he neuer saw Foxredge bak't in a browne loafe before. The Counsellor with the rest of his meale mates beholding this Issue of ignorance viz. his Pasty cut by the wrong way, his table-cloth embrodered with bak't butter and Deere grease, his sole hardy guest making faces like Singer the clowne when his Master in
the

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the play had him ontrusse, and blowing his talony clutch like a Chauncery Clarke at Westminster Hall in a Willacy Tearme gaue him couniell that he should neuer assault such a Towne againe, till the breach were made before him, and so with much paine and more shame he departed hasting to get a cooler for his heat, leauing many there to laugh and teast at his simplicitie.

A deceit of the hope of the couetous, with a Turnep.
The King of France, Charles the first, being presented by a poore Gardiner, with a Turnep of a huge greatnesse, gaue him for his reward five hundred crownes, giuing him charge to lay it vp, and keepe it safely for him, till hee shold call for it. Which bounty being noted of all his Court, and chiefly obserued by one couetous rich officer of his house, caused him, in hope of some greater recompence for a greater present, to present his Majesty, with a faire and goodly horse: which the King thankfully receiuing, noting his miserable nature, and that his gift rather did proceed, from hope of gaine, then good will, called for the Turnep; wherewith hee rewarded the miserable Ass: at which, hee no lesse scetted, then all that saw it, hartely laughed. And so I with all such churles to be serued.

A pretty tale of a Foxe and an Ass.

In the time out of mind, when men wrote they cared not what, I find a discourse of a Lyon, which being King of beasts, vpon some, I know not what cause, called a Parliament. whereto a great number of his subiects, being come as nere to his presence as they durst, he caused a proclamation to be pronounced to the whole assembly, that what beast soeuer bare a horne in his head, should not after that day presume to set foot within that chiese wood of his, without his especiall license, and whosoener did violate his command, should bee held as a traitor, and suffer death, without further iudgement. It fell out within few daies after that, a fore hauing one night met with a brood of pong Geese, besides Rabbits

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Rabbits and Chickins, and having drawne them to a bush, under which hee had laid them, farre from the high way, chanced in the morning to espie a poore Asse comming towards him, to whom after a few salutations, and questions touching his passage that way, he told the summary of the aforesaid proclamation: who answered him, that it nothing touched him, for that hee had no hornes. Oh, (quoth the Fore) take heede, thou hast long eares, and if the Lyon will say, that they be hornes, then they are as ill as hornes: but if thou wilt helpe me to carry a little poultry, that I haue taken heere for the Court, I will warrant thee to go and come safe. The poore Asse, whose backe was made for the purpose, to beare the Fores burden, followed his counsell, and tooke vp the poultry, which the Fore made shift to lay vpon his back: where with hee was no longer come to the wood side, but a Wolfe espying him, ran towards him, of whom not a little afraid, he flung downe his burden, with this out-cry: let neuer an Asse follow a Fore, lest he meete with a Wolfe at his iourneys end.

How a woman serued a Glutton, but yet he was too good for her.

NOt vnlike to Mother Bunch our Hostesse, an old woman in Sussex, that brewed good Ale, there dwelt, that had euery weeke a lusty eater, and as tall a drinker, vsed to her house: but when hee had serued himselfe, hee would not pay any thing at all. The woman grieuing to be thus vsed still, knew not what remedy to haue: for with his swagging he dominéed, because hee had bene a Souldier. One Tuesday morning he comes thither, saying, Hostesse, what shall we haue to breakfast? I haue nothing of your price (quoth she) at this time. Wherevpon he began to sweare so pitifully, that he so feared the woman, that she set a dish of sweete butter before him, that she had kept for others, that were to come thither: whereof he began to eate so greedily, that she feared he would eate vp all. And thereupon she fled to the doore, as though one had knockt, and came in againe,

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and said to him, Sir, there is one at the doore would speake with you. Whereupon hee went to the doore, In the meane space he thruste his knife in the fire, and heate it almost red hot. In comes he againe, saying there was no body there. Then belike he is gone, quoth hee. Hee taking his knife againe, would haue cut the butter, but it fell off from the knife whereat he wondring, said, Hostesse, I maruaile what ailes my knife! Cruely, Sir, your knife blushes to see his master so unreasonable. In faith, said he, if this knife blush, his fellow here yet looketh pale: and so drawes out his other knife, and eates vp the rest of the butter cleane.

The answere of a Gentlemans man to his Master.

A Worshippfull Gentleman in London, hauing on a time invited diuers of his friends to supper to his house, and being at supper, the second course comming in, the first was one of the Gentlemans owne men, bringing a Capon, and by chance stumbling at the portall doore, the Capon flew out of the platter, and ran along the bozds to the vpper end of the Table where the Master of the house sate, who making a leaue of it, said, By my faith, it is well, the Capon is come first, my man will come anone too, I hope. by and by came his man, and takes vp the Capon, and laies it in the platter, and sets it on the bozd. I thanke you sir quoth his Master, I could haue done so my selfe. I, quoth his man, tis a small matter, sir, for one to doe a thing, when hee sees it done before his face.

Of one that coolsened himselfe.

Two schollers of Oxford comming to London and hauing little money betwixt them they alighted in great Wickham at an Inne and there call'd for two peny-worth of Egges, which being brought and quickly eaten, they paid the reckoning, got vpon horsebacke and rid forwards on their Journey, and by the way quoth the one to the other, I haue coolsend mine Host finely, how I prethee (quoth the other) why quoth he I haue eaten a whole chicke in one of my Egges and paid nothing for it.

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Certaine fullen speeches of Diogenes to Alexander.

Diogenes walking on a time in a Church-yard neere unto a highway, that lay in a valley, espied Alexander with a great traine a farre off upon a hill, comming do wne towards that towne, where the Church stode. Whereupon, minding to put Alexander out of such proud humours, as he doubted of him at that time to be possessed with, ran in all hast unto the Serten of the Church, for the key of the doore, within which lay the dead mens sculles, and bones, which had bene digged up: where taking out as many as hee could well carry in his armes, hee laide them one by one, in the way where Alexander was to passe: who being come somewhat neere unto him, and seeing his paines, in laying of the bones, asked what he ment by it? Why (quoth Diogenes) I haue heard that here haue bene as well the bones of Princes, as poore people, buried here in this Churchyard: and now I haue bene laying them together, to see, if I can find any difference, whereby I might find which were the Princes, and which the Beggers: but truely they are so like one another, that I find no difference at all. Well (quoth Alexander) this is one of thy dogged humors: but how darest thou thus trouble me in my time of pleasure, knowing that I can take thy life from thee, if I list? Why (quoth Diogenes) doe thou know, that I will die in spite of thy teeth, and therefore care not for thy threats, knowing death to bee the worst that can come of them, and my offence no greater then this in deserving of them. Which answered Alexander well noting, knowing his nature, left him to his fullin humours.

Of a drunken fellow that fell in the fire.

There was a notable drunkerd of Rochester, whom his wife perswaded as much as in her lay, to leave that sin: but the more shee spake, the worse hee was, and because shee controuled him, he would al to beat her. So she let him alone, and because his vse was still to stay out till almost midnight, she would goe to bed, and bid her maid tarry by for him, and
make

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make a good fire : and so she die. One night when hee came home, the maid let him in, and hee stood by the fire and warmed himselfe : but his head being to heavy for his body, down he fell in the fire all along, the maid ran crying : Oh, Mistress, Mistress, my Master is fallen into the fire. No force, maide (quoth shee) let him take his pleasure in his stove becke a Gods name, where he will himselfe.

A pretty tale of a Foxe and a Goose.

In the time when birds and beasts could speake, and the winds could carry many tales thorow the wood, as it is written by some idle head, there came a fore out of a wood, unto a country house, there neere to adioyning, where finding a broode Goose, within a kind of open penne, saluted her in this manner : How doe you sister ? I heard you were not well of late, which made me come to visit you, as one, who would be glad to do you any good that lay in his poore power. The goose sitting over her young brood crowding, made him this answer : Truly, I am not wel, yet I thinke I and mine should doe much better, if you would not come so often to visit us : yet for that I haue a paine in my backe, I pray you come in and seele how it is swelled, that you may the better teach me what to apply unto it. The fore very glad of this vnioked for kindnesse, hoping to haue that he came for, put his head no sooner within the doore, but a dog lying closely hid den, caught him by the nose, and biting off a peece of his chay, with a sudden snatch let him goe. The poore fore making no little hast home to his borough, no sooner came among his fellow fores but with great sighes told them, that hee was bitten with a Goose. Which the bitch-fore hearing, with an open mouth ran at him, and beat him out of the hold, with this shamefull reproach : Goe colward, bite her againe, thou shalt neuer come within my borough, to be bitten of a Goose, and bring away neuer a feather.

Of King Henry, and the countriman.

King Henry riding a hunting, in the Countie of Kent, he came by chance to a great gate, that he must needs

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pasſe through, and in the way there ſtood a ploughman, to whom the King ſaid: I pray thee good fellow, open the gate. The fellow perceiving it was the King, ſtood like an Image, and ſaid: No, and it ſhall pleaſe your Grace, (quoth he) I am not worthy to be in that office, but I will fetch Maſter Cooper, that dwelleth but two miles hence, and he ſhall open you the gate. And ſo ran away, as faſt as ever he could.

Of the old man of Monmouth, that gave his ſonne all his goods in his life time.

In Monmouth dwelt an ancient man, of faire poſſeſſions and great lands, having but one ſonne to enjoy all his ſubſtance. His ſonne being married, he gave him all that he had, and ſo would live free from all worldly matters in his old age with his ſonne in his owne houſe. After the deede of giſt was made, a while the old man ſate at the upper end of the Table, after ward they ſet him lower about the middle of the Table: next, at the Tables end: and then among the ſervants. And laſt of all, they made him a couch behind the doze, and covered him with old ſackcloth, where, with grieve and ſorrow the old man dyed. When the old man was buried, the young mans eldeſt child ſaid unto him: I pray you father, give me this old ſackcloth. What workeſt thou doe with it, ſaid his father? Forſooth ſaid the boy, it ſhall ſerve to cover you, as it did my old graundfather.

How a woman, to hide a ſmall fault, ſhewed a greater.

A Woman at Romford, had for ſome cauſe ſhaven her head, and newly as ſhee had put her kerchiefe of her head, one of her neighbours called for her haſtely in the ſtreet. When her neighbour ſaw her ſo, ſhe blamed her, for coming abroad bare-headed. Shee remembering herſelfe, whipt up her cloathes from behind her, over her head. And ſo to hide her head, ſhe ſhewed her bare taile.

How a madde man in Gloceſterſhire answered a Gentleman.

In Gloceſter ſhire dwelt one that cured franticke men in this maner: When their fit was on them, hee would put them

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them in a gutter of water, some to the knees, some to y^e middle, and some to the necke, as the disease was on them. So one that was well amended, standing at the gate, by chaunce, a gentleman came riding by with his hawks, and his Hounds. The fellow called him to him, and sayd, Gentleman, whither go you? On hunting, quoth the gentleman. What do you with all those kytes and Dogges? They be Hawkes and Houndes, quoth the Gentleman. Wherefore keepe you them, quoth the other? Why quoth hee, for my pleasure. What do they cost you a yere to keepe them? Forty pounds quoth the Gentleman. And what doe they profit you, quoth hee? Some ten pounds (quoth the Gentleman.) Get thee quickly hence, quoth the fellow: for if my Master find thee heere, he will put thee into the gutter vp to the throat.

Of an Hermit by Paris, that lay with all the chiefest gentlewomen in the Country,

This notable knave, that vnder colour of holinesse, enticed all the chiefest Matrones of the Country to folly; at last, his doings were detected and knowne, and hee was brought before the Duke of Anioy, which to heare the number of them for his disport, called his Secretary to write them downe. The Secretary bade him recount them. The Hermit named to the number of xxvii. of the Dukes seruants wiues, and others, and then stood still and said nothing. Is there no more, quoth the Duke? No, and it shal like your Grace, quoth the Hermit. Tell troth quoth the Secretary, for if thou doest not, thou shalt be sharpl^y punished. Then said the Hermit, sighing, to make vp the xxviii. write thine owne wife, in the number. Whereupon, the Secretary for very griefe, let fall his pen. And the Duke, laughing hartely, said, I am glad, that he that with so great pleasure, hath heard the faults of other mens wiues, should now come into the same number himselte.

The miserable niggardice of a Iustice.

A Hoary-headed miserable Iustice, came to London, to the Learne: And lying in Fleet-Street, a company of

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excellent Musicians, in a Morning, played very earely at his chamber. But being loth to bestow his money so vaine-ly, had his man tell them, hee could not as then heare their Musicke for he lamented for the death of his Mother. Wherefore they went their way, for their hope was deceiued. A Gentleman, a friend of his in London, hearing the same, came to comfort him, and asked him when his Mother dyed? Faith (quoth he) some xvi. yeers agoe. When his friend vnderstood his deceit, he laughed hartely.

A witty answer of a Magistrate to a malicious accuser of an offender.

A Malicious fellow, willing to bring a neighbour of his vnto all the disgrace he could deuise, and shrewdly suspecting him, to haue more then a months minde to a fine Mistris neere vnto him, oftentimes watching his going in, and comming out of her house. One day among other in the euening, noting his long stay, suspected that there was somewhat to doe more then all the parrish was acquainted with, and therefore seeing the maid gone forth vpon some errand, being very earely in the morning, suddenly slept in with a companion of his, and tooke them together at their exercise: which being glad of, and that hee had witnesse to make his matter good, runnes to the Magistrate of the Citie, who had to deale with such persons, and such cases, and told him as much as he had seene: with, oh Sir, I assure you he is a perillous man for a woman, and to tell you the troth, we take him in bed with her: what say you to such a fellow? The Magistrate somewhat allyed vnto the young man, and wishing rather a secret amendment, then an open reprehension, gaue him this answer: Truly, for the matter it is not well: but for being taken in bed with her, in troth, I can thinke no other wise, but hee was a flugard: I know not what to say to him. The accuser seeing the people smile, and himselfe mocked with this speech, did no further aggravate the matter, but with a flea in his eare, went away with his malicious humour.

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A Tale of a merrie yong Gentleman.

A Gentleman coming to baite at an Inne in Egham, called to haue a cloath layd, and went vp into a Chamber, the Chamberlaine comes presently after, and brings by a cloath, trenchers, bread and salt, which being laid, he went downe for the meate. Meane-while the Inne-keeper comes vp, and entertaines the Gentleman (as most of his trade will doe) onely to winne fauour and get custome. And seeing neither Beere nor Raphin on the Boord, snatches vp one of the Trenchers in a rage, and throwes it out of the Window at his seruant. The Gentleman seeing that, takes the Bread and Salt, and Table-cloth, and throwes all out at the Window after it. The Host asked him what he meant by that. Why mine Host (quoth the Gentleman) I thought you would haue had me dined beneath.

A tale of a Miller.

A Millers man that neuer knew what belonged to wit or good manners, brought a sacke of corne ground to a Gentlewomans house being a widow, and keeping house in Essex, who sitting at her doore when this dunce came, asked him what he had brought, sir reuerence of your worshippe (quoth he) my maister hath sent home your corne forsooth, wherebpon she willed him to lead his horse into the stable: and while her men vnloaded him, come in and eat som what, And no quoth my Abraham Minnie, my horse hath a great laske with lying in the open fields, and should hee come in hee would be-pisse your worships stable, and eat out of all measure.

The

The Bakers doozen of Gulles.

The first Gull, vpon the wager of the Horſe and the Cowe for good trauell.



Here was ſometime, not many yeres ſince, a mery conceited man, of what profeſſion, I doe not well remember, who hauing occaſion to take poſt from ſome haven Towne neere the Sea, came to the Mayoꝝ of the Towne, to complaine vnto the Conſtable of the Towne, for his little honeſty in pro-
uiding him ſuch ill horſes, knowing the nature of his buſines, and the haſt it required. The Mayoꝝ looking vpon them, as one that had not often made any poſting iourneis, told him, hat though they were not ſo good as hee had ſene, yet they could ſerue the turne well enough, and that as then hee thought the Towne would yeeld him no better. Whereupon the poſter told him, that if he were no better furniſhed, that in his Country a man would teach a young Cowe, to carry him further in a day, then the beſt horſe in that Towne: and for a neede hee could doe as much there: and thereupon hee would lay twenty pounds. The Mayoꝝ diſcontented with his ſpeech, told him he would lay the wager, tooke money in earneſt, the words were ſet downe, witnes ſet to their hands that in xxiij. houres hee would ſo diet a young Cowe, that ſhe ſhould carry him further in a day, then the beſt horſe in the Shire. The Cowe was brought into a ſtable, hay, and water ſet to her, and in the morning when hee ſhould ride, a horſe brought thither to the place, which preſently he would haue bound to the Cowe: which being too heauie for the Cowe to carry, they all found the deceit: and the poore Mayoꝝ being made a good Gull, was forced to confeſſe his folly, & to giue the poſter a good piece of money, to be rid of his wager.
The

The second Gull, vpon the wager of leaping.

A Certaine yong well limmed, broad shouldred, and milpost-legged yong man, (who it should seeme) with following of hounds, was used to leaping of ditches: and so with use grew to be held the captain leaper of that side of the countrey. One day among other, wherem games came about the countrey; best, second, and third, a great assembly of the youth of diuers parishes struing befoze their best beloued, who had the lightest paire of heeles, put in their peeces of money, each one for the best, or the rest, as it fell out. This gallant yonker aduancing himselfe, being vntrust for the purpose, offers any man a foote befoze him, for the price of a quarter of the best malt in the countrey. But while no man would meddle with him, one mad-headed fellow standing by him, suddenly stept to him, and told him, that if hee might chuse his ground, there vpon the ground befoze him, that he would aduenture vpon the aduantage of a foote befoze him, at the vprising or standing, he would leape with him for fortie shillings. The wager was laid, the money put into a bore, and the witnesses came to see the leaping: when he that tooke the foote befoze him, tooke his ground iust befoze a great Elme tree, that grew on the greene hard by: where being able to leape no further then the tree, the other finding himselfe decetued, was contented to lose part of his money, to learne him better wit: and so like a good Bull went his way.

The third Gull, vpon a wager of going as fast as a horse, and goe all one way.

A Dapper yong fellow, vpon a time hauing bought him a pretty ambling gelding, was for certaine daies almost neuer off from his backe: and riding him no long iourney, but as it were betwixt London and Mile-end, in the view of many people, willing to make shew of his horse, or horsemanship, sitting as vpight as a picture of Rye dowe, a subtil companion of his acquaintance,

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tance, meaning to make a Gull of his mastership, told him it was a pretty gagge, but he was but slow pased, and that he would lay five pounds, that he would goe as farre in a day on foote, as he should ride his horse, and goe both one way. The fine and all so fine, being much moued, to heare his horse so disgraced, accepted his offer, laid the wager, and they put the money into a mans hands of good worth, that stood by. Which done the mery fellow standing in the high way, went backwards. Which the horseman assaying to do, not used to those kinde of tricks, his horse rising aloft, fell backwards with him, with danger of his life, when rising vp, and seeing the other still going backewards, called to him, and with confession of losse, taking backe what hee would giue him, remained a good Gull for his labour.

The fourth Gull, vpon a wager to hang himselfe,
Vpon a time, I haue forgotten when, in a place out of minde, met a company of good fellows, which being likely to bee some Iune, while the people were all set at dinner, came in an old rich Farmer of the countrey, who being well lyned in his purse, and therefore might haue the merier heart, was so full of talke at dinner, that scarce any man else was heard at the table. Which a Scholler sitting among them, well obseruing, and withall seeing him well tickled in the head with the good drinke, vpon the sudden fell into this speech with him: Honest man, I pray you pardon me, if I say any thing that may offend you: I am sozie to see the euil that is towards you: you haue bene very mery, but I feare, you will neuer be so againe in this company: for I see in your eyes a spirit of madnesse, which will very speedily bring you to your unhappy ende: for indeede, within this houre, you will hang your selfe in the stable, vpon one of the great beames: and that I will lay a good wager, either with you, or any of this company. The olde man much moued at this speech, and yet noting his grauitie, told him, that hee was sozie to see a Scholler haue so much learning, and so little wit: but my friend (qd, he) if you haue
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any money in your purse, you shall be rid of it, when you will, vpon that wager. Wherevpon the Scholler gaue him ten shillings, and told him, that if hee did not hang himselfe, within an houre after, and first come into the house, and aske forgiveness of all the house, he should giue him but ten pound for it. The Farmer tooke the money, called in for wine and sugar, and made merry withall. At the houres end, he came to take his leaue of the Scholler, and his company, who told him, that he must pay ten pounds, for that he had not hanged himselfe. At which words, he finding the decelt, confessed his ignorance, payed for the good chéere, and trebling the Schollers money, like a true Gull got him home againe.

The fift Gull, that lost the wager vpon the great Hog.

In the midst of the terme, at a certaine Alehouse or Inn, where couetous wretches set their halfe starued hozes, and themselves feede vpon browne bread, and red Werrings, vsing after supper to sit sirtene at a faggot and a pot of beere, and inquiring of mine host, what newes in the towne: a cunning companion, that could feede vpon the braines of a cunny, gat him a lodging in the house: and getting a company of old written papers, bound vp in scrowles, like lawe cases, would play the penny-father among them, till he had made his market with some of them: so holding an euen hand among them, talking of many idle things, atlast brake out into a great admiration of the strange wonder s of the world, and of all not the least, of a huge great hogge, that he had seene in the countie of Lincolne, neere vnto the ffens, where were three Sowes that were so high, that the tallest man in the company standing by right, let him reach as high as he could, he should not touch the back of it, and those three Sowes with their pigs, were a worse mans, that would sell them for twelue pounds, and if he had had money, he would haue bought them, and haue gotten a hundred pounds by the bargaine. foure or five of those greedy Asses, giuing no litle eare to his talke, entreated him that he would bring them thither, and they would beare his charges. Vnt he, only lea-

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ning to one of them, whose purse he knew to be full of mony, secretly in a morning stole away with him, and rode downe with him into the countrey: where keeping of a certaine blind house of lodging, kept the poore man at his house five or sixe daies, to see these great sowes, and in the end brought him vnto a pretty Sow, by whom he caused him to stand by right, and reach by his hand as high as he could, when he asked him, if he did not touch her backe: Who answered, No: for he was too high aboue it. Well (quoth he) this is the Sow that you shall haue for foure pounds of your money that I haue receiued of you, which he had deliuered him the night before. The poore man, finding his greedines kindly met withall, and that he must take the Sow, or lose all, was content with losse of halfe of his money, to returne againe, as good a gull as he went out.

The sixt Gull vpon a lifting Dogge.

A idle headed fellow, new come out of the Countrey, and determining, after a litle money spending, to returne home with a budget full of newes, met by chance with an odde wagge, cousin Germane to a Page: who finding his humoz, and meaning to fit him in his kinde, fell into this honest kinde of parlee with him: Oh old huddle and twang, what newes in the countrey, that you are come to towne: hast thou beene at a play yet? Yea (qd. the good clowne) that I haue, two or thzee. But Sirra, what newes where you keepe? I am sure you heare all the world. No great newes (quoth the wag) but onely of the huge great lifting dogge, that came lately out of Barbary: they take but two pence a peece of euery one that seeth him: hee is at the signe of the Carnation Hedgehog in Westminster, neere to the Gatehouse: goe thither when thou wilt in my name, and thou shalt see him for a penny, the poore Ass little mistrusting the boyes waggery, went in al haste, seeking for such a signe as was not to be found. But being demanded wherefore he sought: one of the Pages coparteners in his tricks, told him, if he would giue him but a quart of wine, he would bring him
to

to the Dog. The fellow weary with seeking for the Carnation Hedgehogge, was contented, for the abridging of his further trauaile, to giue him both wine and sugar, with such appurtenances as cost his purse aboue an ordinarie. Which done, and the shot payed, out this younger lead this little wit, from one lane to another, till hauing traced most streets to be thought vpon, at last he brought him out of the tolunes end, to a poore womans house, that kept a little Island curr: whom shewing vnto this good Gole, Looke you (quoth he) he lifts vp his taile so high, that you may kisse his arse if you list: and with those words, laughing, ran away, crying, Oh Gull, Gull, get thee home into the countrey, and carry newes of the lifting Dogge.

The seuenth Gull, for the Pigges, that were Hennes.
T Rauailing vpon the way to London, out of what countrey. I know not, a certaine pretty quick witted fellow, ouertooke a company of horsemen, who to passe away the time, fell to talke of such things, as came in their heads: Some of hoxses, some hawks, some hounos, some hares, and some conies: but towards their iourneys end, they fell to talking of wondrous, each one recounting what he had scene: Some the long ditch at Newmarket, other the Stones by Salisburie, and some the top of Bowles: and other of the Lions in the Tower: but among all this, the youth in a basket that ouertooke the company, began to tell of a most miraculous thing that hee had scene, and that but two nights befoze: that in a towne some fortie miles behinde him, at the signe of the whip and the Eg-shell, he did see twelue pigges in a yard, going by two Solwes, and in the morning they were all hennes. Many seemed to wonder at it, and the more at his sober protesting of his truth in his tale. Wherevpon, one simple man of the company, desirous to carry newes home of such things as he had scene abroad, desired this fellow at his comming backe againe, to beare him company to that towne, and into his way backe againe, and he would beare part of his charges, for his kindness.

nesse. This being betwixt themselves agreed vpon, their businesse being dispatched together, they rid home together: where, being well dried after a wet iourney, going to supper, they had one of the pigges well roasted in his house, whose name was henne: and in the morning, asking for these henne pigges, hee shewed him all the rest. Wherewith finding himselfe sweetly deceined, ashamed to tell the world how hee was abused, like a good poyze Gull, got him out of the countrey.

The eight Gull, vpon the Gardens.

I fell vpon a time, much about Sturbridge faire, that many madde people, minding to throw away a little money, for lacke of company in the citie, would needs go make merr y in the countrey, among whom was one tolly lustie wench, that had made her selfe fat with good ale and laughing. This peece of houshold-stuffe, being hostesse of I know not what Anne, say her husband what he list, would make one among her friends: and being some three or fourescore miles out of London, in a countrey market Towne, where were some such girles, as thought their pennies good siluer, and their ware worth money: After they had bene merrie some few daies, and almost emptied a poyze tauerne of all his runlets, inquiring as the fashion is, after newes, this good mistris, falling to her turne to talke of wonders, told them, that one of the greatest wonders, that euer she saw, or heard of, was of late in the citie, done by a stranger touching Gardens, and the preservation of flowers, for she had seene it with her eyes, that he had taught diuers how to take in their gardens every night at their windows, and let them out againe euery morning. Which thing the neighbours that came with her, seemed to scold vp, that they had heard of the like, but they had neuer seene it. But she with solemne othes still affirmed, that shee had seene it, and could bring them to it. While they all gaue eare vnto it, one chiefe woman of the company, who had her purse well lyned, and cared not for to spend a little money for the satisfying of her humoz, vpon a
beliefe

beliefe of her solemne protestations, told her, that if she might be assured to come to the sight of that she spake of, she would take some of her neighbours with her, and she would beare her company backe to London. To be short, the matter was agreed vpon, the wonder was beleued, the day appointed for their iourney, and together they came to London, where they lay all at her house had good cheere, and payed well for it. But after that they had gone abroad with the hostesse, to see sights, Cheapeside, the Exchange, Westminster, and London bridge, had trode the top of Powles, vnder their feet, bene at Beare garden, seene a play, and had made a fauerne banquet, looking into their purses for to discharge their expences, were wilking to see this strange sight of these Gardens, which she had daily promised to bring them to, but still making excuse, that they were in the countrey, and not yet come to London againe, that had such gardens to be seene: in the end brought them into a little lane, whereout at a garret window, shee shewed them a poore widdow setting out certaine boards, and vpon them certaine earthen pots, in which were diuers kindes of flowers, and herbes, as Gillyflowers, Carnations, and such like. The woman seeing her selfe, with her company mocked with this test, made little shew of anger, but seemed to laugh it out, and with this trick of mistress Hostesse, to gather some money with her wit, tooke a Gull with her into the countrey, to feede a cole when shee found him.

The ninth Gull, that wist for the wood.

Among madde countrey wenches, that when they sit a milking, will be talking of their sweet hearts, it was my happe not long since, lying close vnder a bush, to heare a merry tale, of a bird little wiser then a Woodcocke. There was a yong fellow that was well furnished for implements of household, mary his wealth was not great, and his wit but little, and his spirit of a weake constitution. For as it sel out, a rich widdow, that was past a girle, and therefore knew
what

Pasquils Iests, and Mother

What to do with a good thing, when she had it, hearing diuers reports of such persons, as she was wished to make much of, among all, she heard of one yong man, a neighbours sonne of hers, to be a sufficient man to doe her much good seruice, either within the house, or without, either for plowing, or threshing, or sowing, or such countrie worke, as best fitted her occupation. This yongman she sent for, and as farre as modestie might, she made shew of her affection: which the Goose not perceiuing, shee caried him one day alone into her chamber, where she told him, she must haue his helpe to remove a chest. The fellow vnderstanding nothing more then was told him, went vp with the widdow, and all alone from one chamber to another, the doores shutting after the: where she often smiling at his either shamefastnes or foolishnes, in the end caried him to a chamber, where stood a chest that he could not reigne: when, saying he would fetch companie to helpe him, she answered no, now she was otherwise minded. And so leading downe againe the good Ass, shee neuer sent more for him. A friend of his, meeting of him comming forth, hoping of his good hap, knowing his being alone with her alone, asked him how he had sped. Whose answer was, Oh, I wisht I had had her in the wood, and then I would haue told her my minde. Now what a notable Gull was this, I leaue to all good humored wenches to consider.

The tenth Gull that shooke his gloues,

This tale was no sooner ended, but another wench began to quite her in this sort: Nay, then I will tell thee of as good an Ass, as that was for his life. In our Towne not long agoe, one of the chiefe of our parish, who was twice Churchwarden, and in election to be Bailife, a good fat grosse churle, hauing a good house of his owne, and well to take to, married a widdow, that dwelled threec miles off: who, hauing good cattell, and corne, and some household of her owne, by the motion of good friends, made a match together. But this churle, being troubled with some sixteene diseases, lay
him

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himselfe in one bed, and his wife in an other by him: who ha-
uing a kinde of more then good liking to a yong man in the
house, some kinsman of his, with sheepes-eyes, and smiles,
and such odde kinde of wicked kindnes, she made him under-
stand her minde: and being agreed one night to come into
her chamber, when he was a sleepe, she told him for feare of
the worst, that he should take a paire of her gloues, and flap
them to and fro in his hand, which would make a noise like
vnto a great Spaniell, that vsed often to shake his eares:
which lesson he forgot not. Night was come, the candles out,
they in bed, and he came creeping like a dogge. But the doore
creaking, the old man halfe awake, or not fast asleepe, asked
who was there? when the fellow shaking of his gloues toge-
ther, made him thinke it was the dogge: when saying, Oh,
Troll, he lay still as though he slept. But the fellow missing
his way in the darke, running his head against his masters
bed-post, vpon a sudden the old man start vp his head, with,
How now? who is there? The yong man amazed, forgetting
to flappe his gloue, answered, Forsooth, it is the dog. Where-
at his mistris laughing, bad hang him vp. Whereat the fel-
low, as it were following in, and seeking to driue him forth,
cryed, come out. But in the morning, as I heard, the Gull
was put in a coope, where I heard no more of him.

The eleuenth Gull, vpon the Colewort.

It is a trickes among many travellers, if they light into
company, that they thinke haue not passed the Seas, to
tell wonders, that wise men ought not to beleue vpon the
first hearing. Among which kinde of people, it sel out one day
at an ordinarie, that a certaine idle companion, that loued
to heare himselfe speake, and would talke more then either
he vnderstood, or euer heard of, hearing diuers at the Table
talking of the diuersitie of soyles, and the natures of fruits,
began himselfe with a fine and all so fine kinde of lipping vti-
rance

Pasquils Iests, and Mother

rance, to tell, that he had seene many countries, and noted the diuerities of their natures; but of all, one especially hee noted for the fertilitie of the soyle, where among many kindes of roots, Colwodes, Melons, and such other kinde of fruits, there grew in one waste peece of ground, neere vnto a garden, a Colewort of that bignes for height, and bredth, that foure score Tinkers vpon a sunny day sat at worke together vnder the shadow of it. Now while every body wondered at his tale, and some, that he was not ashamed to lye so broad, that no body could lye by him, one well conceited spirit of the company, vpon the sudden, thinking to quite him in his kind, brake out into this speech: Why, it is not so strange, as that which I heard was in the same place, that all those Tinkers did worke together vpon one kettle. For what vse (quoth the Trauailer?) Mary sir (quoth the other) to scethe your Colewort in. At which speech finding his lie hit home, with as much speed as he could, like a lying Gull, gat him away from the company.

The twelfth Gull, vpon the cry of Hounds.

I Read among the discourses of country actions, that a gentleman of the country, that loued home-sports, as Hawking, Hunting, Ducking, Fowling, and Fishing and such like: but of all, especially a good cry of Hounds, of which hee kept the best in all the Countrey: vpon a morning riding forth, neere a wood side start a Hare, who ledde the Hounds a chase thorow the wood; where the winding of the hornes, the hollowing of the hunts-men, and the mouths of the dogges, made such a countrey pleasant sweet noyse, that the master of the sport, sitting still vpon his horse, as one halfe tauisht with his pleasure, esteeming no musicke comparable to such a cry, sodainely brake out into this speech among them that were neere him, Oh what a heavenly noyse is this! List, list, for Gods sake, is not this a heavenly

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uenly nypse: Whereat one Bull of the Company,
who, as it should seeme, neuer heard any dog but a
Mastiffe, holding vp his eare, as it were towards
the Skie, to heare some nypse from the heauens
brake out into these words, Oh Lord, where is
this heauenly nypse: Why harke (quoth the
Gentleman) list awhile, dost thou not heare: No
(quoth the Bull) the currees keepe such a bawling
I can heare nothing for them. Whereat the Ge-
ntleman laughing, and yet inwardly chaffing
at the fooles wit, rode away from him, and left
him to learne more vnderstanding.

F I N I S .